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Law of the United States.

An ACT *laying Duties on ſtamped Vellum, Parchment and Paper.*

BE it enacted by the Senate and Houſe of Repreſentatives of the United States of America, in Congreſs aſſembled, That from and after the thirty-firſt day of December next, there ſhall be levied, collected and paid, throughout the United States, the ſeveral ſtamp duties following to wit: For every ſkin or piece of vellum, or parchment, or ſheet or piece of paper upon which ſhall be written or printed any or either of the inſtruments or writings following, to wit: any certificate of naturalization, five dollars; any licence to practice or certificate of the admiſſion, enrolment or regiſtry of any counſellor, ſolicitor, attorney, advocate or proctor in any court of the United States, the ſum of ten dollars; any grant or letters patent under the ſeal or authority of the United States, except for lands granted for military ſervices, four dollars; any exemplification or certified copy of any ſuch grant or letters patent, two dollars; any charter party, bottomry, or reſpondentia bond, one dollar; any receipt or other diſcharge for or on account of any legacy left by any will or other teſtamentary inſtrument or for any ſhare or part of a perſonal eſtate divided by force of any ſtatute of diſtributions, the amount whereof ſhall be above the value of fifty dollars, and ſhall not ſucceed the value of one hundred dollars, twenty-five cents; where the amount thereof ſhall exceed the value of one hundred dollars and ſhall not exceed five hundred dollars, fifty cents; and for every further ſum of five hundred dollars, the additional ſum of one dollar; any policy of inſurance or inſtrument in nature thereof, whereby any ſhips, veſſels or goods going from one diſtrict to another in the United States, or from the United States to any foreign port or place, ſhall be inſured to wit, if going from one diſtrict to another in the United States, twenty-five cents; if going from the United States to any foreign port or place, when the ſum for which inſurance is made ſhall not exceed five hundred dollars, twenty five cents; and when the ſum inſured ſhall exceed five hundred dollars, one dollar; any exemplification of what nature ſoever, that ſhall paſs the ſeal of any court, other than ſuch as it may be the duty of the clerk of ſuch court to furniſh for the uſe of the United States, or ſome particular ſtate, fifty cents; any bonds, bills, ſingle or penal, foreign or inland bill of exchange, promiſſory note, or other note for the ſecurity of money, according to the following ſcale, viz. on all bonds, bills, ſingle or penal, foreign or inland bills of exchange, promiſſory note or other note above twenty dollars, and not exceeding one hundred dollars, ten cents; above one hundred dollars and not exceeding five hundred dollars, twenty-five cents; above five hundred and not exceeding one thouſand dollars, fifty cents; above one thouſand dollars, ſeventy-five cents: *Provided*, that if any bonds or notes ſhall be payable at or within ſixty days, ſuch bonds or notes ſhall be ſubject to only two fifths parts of the duty aforeſaid; and provided that notes iſſued by any of the Banks now eſtabliſhed, or which hereafter may be eſtabliſhed within the United States, ſhall be ſubject to a duty according to the following ſcale, viz. On all notes not exceeding fifty dollars, at the rate of three fifths of a cent for every dollar; above fifty dollars and not exceeding one hundred dollars, fifty cents; above one hundred dollars, and not exceeding five hundred dollars, one dollar; above five hundred dollars, two dollars; any proteſt or other notarial act, twenty five cents; any letter of attorney, except for invalid penſions, or to obtain or ſell warrants for lands granted by the United States as bounty for military ſervices performed in the late war, twenty five cents; any certificate or debenture for drawback of cuſtoms or duties for leſs than five hundred dollars, one dollar; any certificate or debenture for five hundred dollars, and not exceeding two thouſand dollars, two dollars; and on every certificate or debenture for more than two thouſand dollars, three dollars; any note or bill of lading for any goods or merchandize to be exported, if from one diſtrict to another diſtrict of the United States, not being in the ſame ſtate, ten cents; if to be exported to any foreign port or place, twenty-five cents; any inventory or catalogue of any furniture, goods or effects, made in any caſe required by law (except in caſes of goods and chattles diſtrained for rent or taxes, and and goods taken in virtue of any legal proceſs by any officer) fifty cents; any certificate of a ſhare in the Bank of the United States, or of any ſtate, or other bank, above twenty dollars, and not exceeding one hundred dollars, ten cents; above one hundred dollars, twenty five cents; and for any certificate for every ſuch ſhare under twenty dollars, at the rate of ten cents for one hundred dollars; and the ſame for any leſs ſum of the amount of the ſhares expreſſed in ſuch certificate; provided, that nothing in this act contained, ſhall extend to charge with a duty, any legacy left by any will or other teſtamentary inſtrument, or any ſhare or part of a perſonal eſtate, to be divided by force of any ſtatute of diſtributions which ſhall be left to, or divided amongſt, the wife, children, or grand children of the perſon deceaſed inteſtate, or making ſuch will or teſtamentary inſtrument, or any recognizance, bill, bond, or other obligation or contract, which ſhall be made to or with the United States, or any ſtate, or for their uſe reſpectively.

Sect. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That in any reſpect to ſtamp, on any of the notes of the banks, now eſtabliſhed, or which hereafter may be eſtabliſhed within the United States, it ſhall be lawful for the Secretary of the Treaſury, to a gree to an annual compoſition for the amount of ſuch ſtamp duty, with any of the ſaid banks, for one per centum on the amount of the annual dividend made by ſuch banks, to their ſtockholders reſpectively.

Sect. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That all deeds and writings whatſoever, for the payment of any ſum of money, upon the contingency of the loſs of any ſhip, or goods, laden or to be laden on board of any ſhip, or of damage thereto, ſhall be conſtrued and adjudged to be policies of inſurance, within this act chargeable with the ſeveral rates of duty herein before mentioned.

Sect. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That when any veſſel, or any goods or merchandize, laden or to be laden on board of any veſſel, ſhall be inſured, a policy duly ſtamped ſhall be iſſued, or made out, within the ſpace of three days at furtheſt; and the inſurer or inſurers neglecting to make out ſuch policy or policies, within the time aforeſaid, ſhall forfeit the ſum of twenty dollars, for every ſuch neglect or offence; and all promiſſory notes, or other ſecurity made for aſſurance or inſurances of ſhips, goods or merchandizes at ſea, or going to ſea, in lieu of a policy, are hereby declared void.

Sect. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That every deed, inſtrument, note, memorandum, letters or other writing between the captain or maſter, or owner of any ſhip or veſſel, and any merchant, trader or other perſon, in reſpect to the hire or freight of ſuch ſhip or veſſel, for conveyance of any money, goods, wares, merchandize or effects, laden or to be laden on board of ſuch ſhip or veſſel, ſhall be deemed and adjudged to be a charter party.

Sect. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That every receipt for every ſum of money, paid in whole or in part, of any legacy or ſhare of perſonal eſtate, diſtributed as aforeſaid, in the caſes in which a duty is hereby charged, ſhall expreſs therein the true ſum which ſhall have been ſo paid; in default of which, as well the perſon or perſons by whom the ſame ſhall have been paid, as the perſon or perſons by whom the ſame ſhall have been received, ſhall ſeverally forfeit and pay the ſum of twenty dollars: And every receipt in full, ſhall be deemed, for the purpoſe of charging the duties hereby laid, to be for the entire ſum of ſuch legacy or ſhare of perſonal eſtate, unleſs it ſhall be made to appear that all ſuch part thereof, as may not be expreſſed in ſuch receipt in full, was, previous thereto, paid, and upon a receipt or receipts, duly marked or ſtamped, according to the direction of this act.

Sect. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That every counſellor, ſolicitor, attorney, proctor, or advocate, who hath been, or ſhall be admitted, enrolled or regiſtered, in any court of the United States, before he ſhall at any time after the ſaid thirty-firſt day of December next, proſecute, carry on, or defend any action, ſuit or proceeding in any court of the United States, ſhall take out a certificate of ſuch admiſſion, enrolment or regiſtry from the Clerk or Prothonotary of the court granting ſuch admiſſion; which certificate ſhall be written on a piece of vellum, parchment, or paper ſtamped according to the directions of this act, and ſuch Clerk or Prothonotary ſhall make entry of ſuch admiſſion, enrolment or regiſtry, in a book to be by him kept for that purpoſe, to which any perſon may at reaſonable times have acceſs without fee or reward:—For which certificate and entry there ſhall be paid to ſuch Clerk or Prothonotary, by the ſupervifor of the revenue for the diſtrict wherein ſuch court ſhall be held, the ſum of twenty-five cents.

Sect. 8. *And be it further enacted*, That the receiving a certificate as aforeſaid in any one of the courts of the United States, for any one of the ſaid offices, ſhall be a ſufficient admiſſion in all the courts of the ſame, for that or any other of the ſaid offices, ſo far as relates to the payment of the duties impoſed by this act; any thing herein contained to the contrary notwithſtanding.

Sect. 9. *And be it further enacted*, That the ſeveral duties aforeſaid, ſhall be levied, collected, received, and accounted for, by and under the immediate direction and management of the ſupervifors and inſpectors of the revenue, and other officers of inſpection, ſubject to the ſuperintendance, control and direction of the Treaſury department, according to the reſpective authorities and duties of the offices thereof.

Sect. 10. *And be it further enacted*, That it ſhall be the duty of the Secretary of the Treaſury, to cauſe to be provided ſo many marks and ſtamps, differing from each other, as ſhall correſpond with the ſeveral rates of duty aforeſaid; that is to ſay, one mark or ſtamp for each diſtinct rate of duty; with which marks and ſtamps reſpectively ſhall be marked or ſtamped all vellum, parchment or paper, upon which ſhall be written, or printed, all or any of the ſeveral inſtruments, writings, matters and things, herein before enumerated and charged, according to the nature and deſcription of each of the ſaid inſtruments, writings, matters and things as are herein before ſpecified and deſcribed:—Which ſaid ſeveral marks and ſtamps ſhall be notified by a public notification, or advertiſement, to be iſſued by the Secretary of the Treaſury, and inſerted in at leaſt one newſpaper printed in each ſtate, and in the Territory North Weſt of the Ohio, and for not leſs than three months before the ſaid thirty firſt day of December next, to the end that all perſons may have due notice thereof; and which ſaid marks and ſtamps, or any of them, ſhall or may be altered or renewed from time to time, as the ſaid Secretary of the Treaſury ſhall think fit, ſo as like public notification thereof be made, for a term not leſs than three months, before ſuch new ſtamps or marks ſhall begin to be uſed.

Sect. 11. *And be it further enacted*, That the ſupervifors of the revenue are hereby empowered and required, forthwith upon demand to them, or any of them, made by any perſon or perſons, to ſtamp or mark any quantities or parcels of vellum parchment or paper (he or they paying to the ſupervifors of the revenue reſpectively, the reſpective duties hereby directed to be paid for the ſame) to ſtamp and mark the ſame accordingly, without any other fee or reward, which ſtamp or mark ſhall be a ſufficient diſcharge for the ſeveral and reſpective duties hereby granted upon the ſaid vellum, parchment or paper, which ſhall be ſo ſtamped or marked.

Sect. 12. *And be it further enacted*, That if any ſupervifor of the revenue ſhall fix any ſuch mark or ſtamp to any vellum, parchment, or paper, upon ſuch requeſt or demand as aforeſaid, before the ſeveral and reſpective duties thereupon charged by this act, ſhall be duly anſwered and paid, or ſecured to be paid, he ſhall for every ſuch offence, forfeit his office, together with the ſum of five hundred dollars.

Sect. 13. *And be it further enacted*, That if any perſon or perſons ſhall write or print, or cauſe to be written or printed upon any unſtamped vellum, parchment or paper, (with intent fraudulently to evade the duties impoſed by this act) any of the matters or things for which the ſaid vellum, parchment or paper is hereby charged to pay any duty, or ſhall write or print, or cauſe to be written or printed, any matter or thing, upon any vellum, parchment or paper, that ſhall be marked or ſtamped for any lower duty than the duty by this act payable, ſuch perſons ſo offending ſhall for every ſuch offence, forfeit the ſum of one hundred dollars; and in caſe any clerk, officer, or perſon, who in reſpect of any public office or employment is or ſhall be authoriſed or inſtructed to make, write or print, any deeds, inſtruments or writings, by this act charged to pay any duty, as aforeſaid, ſhall be guilty of any fraud or practice to defraud or deprive the United States of any duty by this act payable, by making, writing or printing any ſuch deed, inſtrument, or writing, or cauſing the ſame to be made, written, or printed upon vellum, parchment, or paper, not marked or ſtamped according to this act (or upon vellum, parchment or paper marked or ſtamped with any mark or ſtamp which he ſhall know to be counterfeited) or by writing or printing any ſuch deed, inſtrument or other writing upon vellum, parchment or paper, that ſhall be marked or ſtamped for a lower duty as aforeſaid, every ſuch clerk, officer or perſon ſo guilty, and being thereof lawfully convicted, ſhall inſtead of the penalty aforeſaid, forfeit and pay the ſum of five hundred dollars; and if an officer of the United States, ſhall in addition thereto, forfeit his office, and be diſabled to hold or enjoy the ſame for the future; and if any deed, inſtrument, or writing whatſoever, by this act charged with the payment of a duty, as aforeſaid, ſhall contrary to the true intent and meaning thereof, be written or printed, by any perſon or perſons whomſoever, upon vellum, parchment, or paper, marked or ſtamped, according to this act, or upon vellum, parchment or paper, marked or ſtamped for a lower duty than ought to be paid upon the ſame, then, and in every ſuch caſe, there ſhall be paid to the United States, for their uſe, over and above the duty herein before charged thereupon, for ſtamping every ſuch deed, inſtrument or writing, the ſum of ten dollars; and no ſuch deed, inſtru-

ment or writing shall be pleaded or given in evidence in any court, or admitted in any court to be available in law or equity, until it shall be stamped as aforesaid. And the supervisors respectively are hereby enjoined and required, upon payment or tender of the said duty and sum of ten dollars unto any of them, to mark or stamp the said vellum, parchment or paper, with the mark or stamp that shall be proper for such deed, instrument or writing, respectively; and if any person or persons whatever, shall counterfeit or forge any stamp or mark, to resemble any stamp or mark which shall be provided or made in pursuance of this act, or shall counterfeit or resemble the impression of the same upon any vellum, parchment or paper, thereby to defraud the United States of any of the duties hereby granted, or shall utter, vend or sell any vellum, parchment or paper, with such counterfeit mark or impression thereupon, knowing such mark or impression to be counterfeit; or shall privately or fraudulently use any stamp or mark, directed or allowed to be used by this act, in relation to the duties hereby laid, with intent to defraud the United States of any of the said duties, then every such person so offending, being thereof convicted in due form of law, shall be judged guilty of a misdemeanor, and be subject to be fined in any sum not exceeding one thousand dollars, and to be imprisoned for any term not exceeding seven years,

Sect. 14. *And be it further enacted*, That from and after the thirty-first day of December, no bank now established, or which shall be hereafter established, which shall not have compounded for the duty hereby required, shall issue any bank bill or promissory note, unless upon paper duly stamped, and whereon the respective duties shall have been paid, and if the officer of any such bank or any person or persons employed therein, shall thereafter issue any bill or note, not duly stamped as aforesaid, he or they shall forfeit and pay a fine equal to the value of the bill or note so issued.

Sect. 15. *And be it further enacted*, That every person who shall be employed for the marking or stamping of vellum, parchment or paper as aforesaid, before his acting in the marking or stamping of the said vellum, parchment or paper, shall take the following oath or affirmation:

"I [insert here the name of the person] do solemnly swear [or affirm, as the case may be,] that I will, according to the best of my knowledge and skill, faithfully, honestly and carefully execute the trust reposed in me, and will truly mark or stamp all vellum, parchment or paper which I shall be required or directed to mark or stamp, and will render a true and exact account thereof to the proper officer or officers, and will faithfully account for all monies which shall receive therefor.

Sect. 16. *And be it further enacted*, That the said supervisors of the revenue, officers and other persons to be employed by them, shall from time to time, for the better execution of their several duties and trusts, observe and execute such directions as they respectively shall, from time to time, receive from the department of treasury; which department shall take care that the several parts of the United States shall from time to time, be sufficiently furnished with vellum, parchment and paper, stamped or marked as aforesaid, so that the citizens thereof may have it in their election to buy the same of the officers or persons to be employed in and about the execution of this act, at the usual or most common rates above the said duty, or to bring their own vellum, parchment or paper, to be marked or stamped as aforesaid.

Sect. 17. *And be it further enacted*, That as often as any alteration or renewal shall be made of, or in the marks or stamps before in use, or any of them, it shall be lawful for all persons who shall, at that time, have in their custody or possession, any vellum, parchment or paper, marked with any mark or stamp, which shall be so altered or renewed, and upon which any of the matters or things hereby charged, shall not have been written, or printed at any time within the space of sixty days, after the intention of renewing or altering shall be notified as aforesaid, to bring or send such vellum, parchment or paper, unto some office of inspection; and the officer of inspection, to whom they shall be brought or sent, is hereby required to deliver, or cause to be delivered, unto the several persons who shall so bring and deliver any quantity of vellum, parchment or paper, the like quantity of vellum, parchment or paper, and as good in quality, stamped with such new stamp or mark, without demanding or taking, directly or indirectly, for the same, any money or other consideration whatsoever. And in case any person shall neglect or refuse, within the time aforesaid, to bring, or cause to be brought and delivered unto some officer of inspection, any such vellum, parchment or paper, the same is hereby declared to be of no other effect, or use, than if it had never been marked or stamped; and all matters and things which shall, after that time, be written or printed thereon, shall be of no other effect, than if they had been written or printed on vellum, parchment or paper, not marked or stamped: And all persons who shall write or print any of the matters or things hereby charged on such vellum, parchment or paper, after the said time, shall forfeit and suffer as herein before is enacted for persons writing or printing on vellum, parchment or paper, not marked or stamped.

Sect. 18. *And be it further enacted*, That all and every the officer and officers who shall be concerned in the levying, collecting and receiving the duties arising by this act, shall keep a separate and distinct account thereof, and shall pay or remit the same, as speedily as may be, after it shall be received according to the orders of the department of the treasury.

Sect. 19. *And be it further enacted*, That it shall be lawful for the President of the United States, to cause such sum and sums of money to be expended and paid, from time to time, for salaries, compensations, and other incidental charges as shall be necessary in and for the receiving, collecting, levying or managing of the said duties, so as that the whole amount thereof, shall not exceed five per centum of the gross total product of the said duties.

Sect. 20. *And be it further enacted*, That all fines, penalties and forfeitures, which shall be incurred by virtue of this act, shall be sued for and recovered in the name of the United States, or of the supervisor of the revenue, within whose district, any such fine, penalty or forfeiture shall have been incurred, by bill or information, in any circuit or district court of the United States, or in any court of either of the said states, one half thereof to the use of the person, who, if an officer of inspection, shall first discover, if other than an officer of inspection shall first inform, of the cause whereby any such fine, penalty or forfeiture shall have been incurred (except in the cases in which a different disposition thereof may have been herein before made) and the other half to the use of the United States.

Sect. 21. *And be it further enacted*, That this act shall continue and be in force for, and during the term of five years, and from thence to the end of the next session of Congress and no longer.

Approved, July 6, 1796.

JOHN ADAMS,
President of the United States.

BOSTON, July 10.

The last accounts from the Mediterranean, are greatly afflictive to the American merchants and public. The depredations in our commerce there, have assumed a new degree of turpitude and audacity. The laws of nations, the right of treaties, and every principle of justice, good faith, and even humanity, are violated and prostrated without remorse and without shame. By the arrivals since our last, and by recent letters, we have accounts of the capture and condemnation of many American vessels by the French and Spanish, even when bound to and from Spanish ports, and laden wholly with Spanish and American produce, and *bona fide* owned by citizens of the United States.

The pretences for these condemnations are the most frivolous, arbitrary, and unjust; the want of papers, unknown to the American law and customs, is made the pretence in some instances—the possession of the same papers is made the cause of condemnation in others. If the right of property is precarious, the vessel and cargo is sequestered—if proved American property, it is condemned as such. No claim is allowed—no argument admitted—the French consular jurisdiction is supreme, in Spain; and its decrees, like the ancient, but less arbitrary laws of the Medes and Persians are irrevocable. The Captains of American vessels at Alicant, have been told by the French Consul there, that although the vessel and cargo should be known to be American; and although he should be satisfied that they were bound direct from Spain to the United States, yet if captured and brought in, he should instantly condemn them—and his threat has in many instances been fulfilled. Such being the situation of the Captains charged with American vessels in Spain, they were necessitated to apply to the British Admiral at Gibraltar, and request from him a convoy to protect them from the piracies of a nation with whom the United States are at peace; who instantly complied with their request; and at the risk of losing one of the frigates of his squadron, convoyed fifteen sail of American vessels to latitudes free of danger from the Gallic picaroons.

We must refer our readers to our articles of port news, and to the following letter, received via. Lisbon, for the detail of these enormities. How long the United States is patiently to bear such reiterated insult and illusage, is not for us to predict!

Extract from a letter written by Capt. William S. Plummer, of the brig Telemachus, to Robert Montgomery, Esq. American Consul at Alicant, dated Carthagena, May 20, 1797.

SIR,

You no doubt must have been a spectator of my capture off your harbour, in company with Capt. Cruft, in the Pomona, Capt. Arwood in the Abigail, and Capt. Muckford in the brig ———, of Salem—we were all taken by three French privateers, and arrived at this port yesterday at 11 o'clock—are all confined on board our vessels, our papers taken from us, and have not liberty to go on shore. What will be the event, God only knows. Your presence here may be of service to us, and I most earnestly request you to proceed to this place, if your health will admit, immediately after the receipt of this letter; I do not yet know that I shall be permitted to send it, if possible, I shall forward it by express.

Sunday Morning, May 21.

Since writing the above I am allowed to go on shore—have passed an examination on board one of the privateers, and from the treatment I have received from the French Consul, I expect no mercy—have only time to intreat you again to lose no time in coming here, and remain with respect, your humble servant.

WILLIAM S. PLUMMER.

Robert Montgomery, Esq.

American vessels at Alicant, May 22, 1797, waiting to know the fate of the vessels carried into Carthagena.

Ship Sarah, Hopkins, Boston; ship John and Martha, Knapp, Newburyport; Sisters, Coffin, Boston; brig Venus, Tolman, New-York; ship Maria, Eldridge, Charleston, S. C.

French cruisers laying in the mouth of the harbour, avowedly waiting for the above vessels.

The following letter must be interesting to those American merchants who trade to the Mediterranean, as it indicates the appearance of another enemy in that quarter. It was communicated by Mr. Winslow of this town, who is supercargo on board a Swedish ship bound for this place, to Capt. Ross, who arrived since our last from Alicant, with a desire that it might instantly be made public. It will be recollected that the United States have not yet effected a treaty with Tunis, and the arrangement spoken of was a truce made about the time Mr. Barlow effected a treaty with Tripoli—As the Dey of Algiers is a real friend to the United States, it is hoped his mediation in our favour will be successful—Here follows the letter entire.

Leghorn, March 13, 1797.

JOHN MATHIEU, Esq. Naples.

Dear sir,

I came here the 8th current, and found letters from Algiers purporting the hostile intentions of the Bey of Tunis to the United States, having declared he would not accede to the arrangement made in October last—the consequence is, open hostilities on his part. You would therefore do well to caution such Americans as are at your port, against his cruisers. Mr. Barlow at the same time tells us, he flatters himself, the matter will soon be accommodated, as the Dey of Algiers has undertaken the affair.

With great respect,
Your most obedient,
JOS. DONALDSON, jun.

[Mr. J. M. Mathieu is the American Consul at Naples. The vigilance of Mr. Donaldson is well known.]

PHILADELPHIA, July 14.

A letter to Timothy Pickering, Esq. Secretary of State, from the Chevalier de Yrujo, Minister Plenipotentiary of his Catholic Majesty, &c. &c. dated July 11, 1797.

SIR,

You additional report to the President of the United States of the proceedings of the officers of the king of Spain, in relation to the posts and the running of the boundary line, which I find published in all the newspapers, obliges me to trouble you with this letter. If your discussion of facts had been as correct and impartial as there was reason to expect, I should not have been under the necessity of undertaking this task; but the construction which you are pleased to put upon every act of the Spanish officers in general, and especially upon those in which I am personally concerned, compels me to observe upon several expressions, which I have noticed in your said report.

You begin, sir, with saying, "that altho' I had "declared I had just reasons for suspecting an expe- "dition from Canada was preparing by the British "against the upper parts of Louisiana, yet I never "had mentioned a single fact or reason on which my "suspicion was founded."—In my letter of the 2d of March, I pointed out to you the probable route which the expedition would take, and in our conference of the 27th of February, I gave you information that a corps of 350 men had been raised at Montreal, and marched towards the Lakes, where, after the evacuation of the American forts, there was no ostensible object for them. I also told you that I knew that the British agents had treated with some of the Indian nations in that country, concerning the intended expedition, and I added that I had received those advices from a person who might be depended on, who had seen those new levies passing through Johnstown, on their way to the westward. But, even supposing that I had not entered into any particulars, even supposing that my information at that period was not complete, yet did not the interest and dignity of this government—did not its friendly connection with Spain, require that it should have taken every proper means to prevent the attempts we were threatened with, by giving suitable orders to general Wilkinson, or to the commanding officers of the military force on those frontiers? The absolute silence in this particular of the documents which accompany the report of the secretary of war, your never having communicated to me any *determinate* disposition on this point, as you do in your answer to my letter, which in the publication is marked No. VII. afford me sufficient grounds to fear that these precautions were omitted. You add, sir, with a degree of candour difficult to be conceived, that from my not having given to you, detailed information respecting the expedition, and from the answer which you received on the 19th ultimo, from the *British Minister*, you believed my suspicions to be groundless. Is it possible, that any one will candidly imagine, that if the English intended to violate the territory of the United States, in order to effect a *coup de main*, they would be as ingenious in answering, as you were in asking their minister the question?

I shall not enter into all the observations which suggest themselves to my mind, from your having communicated to Mr. Liston the contents of my letters. I expected that the American government would have watched his motions, and taken the means which I have already mentioned to prevent the success of a similar enterprize; but I never could have imagined that you would have given to the British Minister a piece of advice, which might enable him to alter his plan, by letting him know that the former one was discovered. By the line of conduct which you have pursued in this business, I am convinced, that had I communicated to you more particular details respecting this transaction, you would, with the same goodnatured frankness, have given information of them to Mr. Liston.

But, if you did believe that asking this question of the British envoy was the most efficacious means to prevent the violation of the neutrality of the United States, and the invasion of the Spanish territory, let me ask why you was so remiss in this measure, that although I had communicated this project to you verbally, on the 27th of February, and on the 2d of March, in writing, yet, in a matter obviously so urgent, you only wrote to the British envoy on the 28th of April, that is, *two months* afterwards?

I shall not quit this subject, without taking the liberty of making to you one observation which is intimately connected with it. By the date of the letter I have just mentioned, it evidently appears that I gave you advice of this intended expedition *the second of March*, and that *three days before*, I had given you the same information verbally. I imagined from your known attention to business, and the importance of the subject, that you would have submitted it immediately to the consideration of the President of the United States. On the 9th of March, I had the honor of speaking to Mr. Adams, at his lodgings at Francis's Hotel, and mentioned this subject as a matter that I supposed him already fully informed of; and, it was with no small surprize I heard him say, that *he knew nothing about it.* I produced the map, which I had in my pocket-book, and he listened with great attention to all that I had to say to him. It was no doubt to this conference with Mr. Adams, that I was indebted to your answer of the 11th of the same month. I shall entirely abstain from putting any construction upon the reasons which induced you to omit making this communication to the President; but they must have been very *powerful* motives which could oblige you to remain so long silent on a matter of such importance.

You say, in the third paragraph of your report, on your asking me what measures Spain had taken in order to carry into execution that part of the treaty which relates to the withdrawing the *garrisons*, I answered you on the 17th of April, that I had been for some months without receiving letters from the baron, and consequently "was entirely ignorant of the steps which had been taken for the execution of the treaty."—From this expression which, in order to draw attention, you place between inverted commas, you insinuate an inference which in my opinion is very far from being true, when you add immediately afterwards:—"*Nevertheless, he had previously informed the baron of his suspicions of a projected expedition.*" What is this to prove, sir? That the baron indeed had received my letters, but not that I had received his. The irregularity and uncertainty of navigation easily shews that your logic on this point is extremely false.

In the fifth paragraph, after giving an account of my letter of the 24th ultimo, and of its object, you observe that I have omitted to mention, among the other complaints of the Baron, that of Mr. Ellicott's not having given him notice of his arrival at Natchez. Permit me, sir, to represent to you, that you have entirely mistaken what I had the honor of telling you on that occasion, for I simply mentioned, not as a *complaint*, but as a mere *observation*, that the Baron, *in the rigour*, might not have considered Mr. Ellicott as an American Commissioner, for not having given him on his arrival *official notice* of his appointment, having merely informed him of it in the way of a confidential communication. You cannot be ignorant, sir, that there are certain requisite formalities when nations treat with one another of their mutual concerns, which are not required between individuals. The Baron, when he speaks in this manner, clearly points out his meaning, that, besides the confidential letter, the communication of which *you consider as so important*, no doubt he expected another *official* one, including his Commission, Authority, or some other document, to ascertain the identity of the person, and the object of his mission. When, on my arrival in this country, I had not yet presented my credentials to the President, although I had delivered to you a copy of them, you might, in the rigour, not have recognized me as the Envoy Extraordinary of the King my master, for want of having complied with that

neceſſary requiſite of the eſtabliſhed etiquette. I do not mean to ſay that in the preſent caſe it was abſolutely neceſſary to go through a ſimilar formality; nor did the Baron mention this but as a mere *matter of obſervation*, which was not to affect the object in queſtion, although you, thinking that it affords you a victorious argument, are pleaſed to give to this circumſtance an importance which it does not deſerve. Beſides, ſir, I might obſerve to you, that when, after a mixed and deſultory converſation upon various ſubjects, I had collected and methodized my ideas, and committed them to writing, your anſwer and obſervations ought to have been confined to the written communication, clothed with all the neceſſary formalities; but neither do I wiſh to make of this an object of diſcuſſion.

The proof which you give in the ſixth paragraph of your report, to ſhew that it is not certain that Mr. Ellicott intended to get poſſeſſion of Natchez by ſurpriſe, and that for that purpoſe he had endeavoured to gain over the inhabitants, is merely negative. From your examination of the two perſons you mention you had very little to expect: The circumſtance alone of their being the bearers of Mr. Ellicott's diſpatches, points out that they were both in his confidence; and it may be preſumed without temerity, that being his friends, or employed under his orders, they would hardly make a denunciation that might be prejudicial to him. Governor Gayoſo declares that he has proofs of the facts in his power. I ſhall not fail to apply to him for them, and perhaps I may one day ſpeak to you more poſitively on this buſineſs.

After having diſcuſſed the hiſtory of theſe tranſactions with all the force and accuracy which reſult from theſe obſervations, you aſſure with a very ill-grounded confidence that upon a view of the whole it appears that his Majeſty's Governors on the Miſſiſippi, have, on various pretences, poſtponed the running of the boundary line, and the evacuation of the poſts. But I appeal to that candour which you have ſo generouſly ſhewn to the Britiſh Miniſter, that you may tell me, whether it can be called a *pretence*, that the Baron de Carondelet, who was entruſted with the ſafety of Louiſiana, refuſed to carry into execution a pretenſion *that was not ſtipulated for by the treaty?* By the ſecond article it is only agreed that the *garriſons* ſhall be withdrawn; and as I had the honor of preſenting to you my letter of the 24th ult. it is not to be preſumed that it could ever have been the intention of his Catholic Majeſty to deliver up fortifications, which, beſides that they have coſt him conſiderable ſums of money, may be the effect of political viciſſitudes, be one day prejudicial to his ſubjects. If not to do *what was ſtipulated for*, and the execution of which would be contrary to the intereſts of Spain, is a *pretence*, we muſt confeſs that is a very plauſible one.

With reſpect to the line of demarcation, it appears by the correſpondence and letters of the Baron de Carondelet, which are in my poſſeſſion, that although he entertained the ſame doubts which were ſuggeſted by Governor Gayoſo, reſpecting the poſts, yet he was conſenting, that the aſtronomical obſervations ſhould be begun upon, for which purpoſe the engineer Mr. de Guillemand had already arrived at the Natchez, with all the inſtruments and apparatus.—Such was the ſituation of things when my communication reſpecting the intended expedition got to hand; from that moment imperious neceſſity, and the great principle of ſelf defence, made his Catholic Majeſty's officers turn their thoughts to objects of a more urgent nature. Mr. Blount's letter, and the late detected conſpiracy, evince how far their conduct in this reſpect was neceſſary; and you, ſir, poſſeſſ as you were, of all the facts, when you laid them before the Preſident, ought to have been one of the laſt to have ſtigmatized the motives with the epithet of *pretexts*. So palpable an attempt to make groundleſs and unfair impreſſions on the public mind, is well calculated to defeat its own ends, and appears ſtill more extraordinary when we conſider that the American Government is in every way anxious, by its own confeſſion, to maintain peace and harmony with Spain.

Nor do your ill founded inſinuations ſtop here: Sentiments and expreſſions ſtill more violent, flow from that ſame haſty pen.—You ſay in another part, *that there is but too much reaſon to believe Mr. Ellicott's ſuſpicions well founded, that an undue influence has been exerciſed over the Indians by the officers of his Catholic Majeſty, to prepare them for a rupture with the United States.* Fortunately, ſir, you have told us the ſource whence you derived all thoſe dreadful conjectures of your's; otherwiſe, perhaps, the weight and authority which your high official character ſtamps upon whatever you write or ſay,—might make an undue impreſſion on the public. You acknowlecge, ſir, 'twas a private letter of Mr. Sargent's (Secretary of the North Weſtern Territory) that gave riſe to your ſurmiſes: We ſhall now ſee what the letter ſays.

[No. XIV.]

Extract of a letter from Winthrop Sargent, Eſq. Secretary of the North-Weſtern Territory, to the Secretary of State, dated Cincinnati, June 3d. 1797.

General Wilkinſon ſending off an expreſs, I ſeize the occaſion to tranſcribe for you ſome paragraphs from a Weſtern letter.

"The Spaniards are reinforcing their upper poſts on the Miſſiſippi conſiderably. General Howard, an Iriſhman, in quality of commander in chief, with upwards of three hundred men, is arrived at Louis, and employed in erecting very formidable works. It likewiſe appears through various channels, that they are inviting a great number of Indians to the territory to croſs the Miſſiſippi; and for this expreſs purpoſe, Mr. Lorromie, an officer in the pay of the crown, made a tour through all this country laſt fall, ſince which time ſeveral Indians have been ſent on the ſame errand, and generally furniſhed with plenty of caſh to defray the expences.

"A large party of Delawares paſſed down on White River about the 6th of May, on their way to the Spaniſh ſide, bearing the national flag of Spain, ſome of them from St. Louis.

"They (the Spaniards) have above the mouth of the Ohio, on the Miſſiſippi, ſeveral row gallies with cannon."

Now, ſir, what inference can be drawn from that letter? Why, that the Spaniards have fortified St. Louis, and availed themſelves of every means of defence that the country afforded. But let me aſk you, ſir, againſt whom it is that they were thus preparing to defend themſelves? Surely the documents which you have laid before the preſident, and the momentuous buſineſs which now engages the attention of congreſs, and agitates the public at large, afforded a complete and ſatisfactory anſwer.

I mentioned to you in my letter of 2d March, that the object of the Britiſh was to attack Upper Louiſiana, and take St. Louis and New Madrid by ſurprize. It will not be queſtioned but that prudence required of us, at that juncture, to fortify the threatened points. This ſir, was all we did; and this ſir, you knew many months paſt, yet Mr. Sargent's letter, which in ſubſtance ſays no more, fills you all at once with fears and ſelf created apprehenſions, and makes you declare in the face of the American people, "that the Spaniſh officers are exciting the Indians to a rupture with us." No one will ſay, that preparations for our ſelf defence were not neceſſary on our part. The aſſurance given you by the Britiſh miniſter, with all the appearance of a confidential communication, *but without any ſignature*, did not inſpire the ſervants of his Catholic majeſty with the ſame blind confidence which it produced in you. We know from daily experience how religiouſly the Britiſh nation obſerves the rights of neutrality. Witneſs the American ſailors! Witneſs the republic of Genoa, in whoſe port they attacked and made prize of the French frigate La Modeſte, as ſhe lay at anchor there. Witneſs the inhabitants of Trinidad, when the Britiſh, though then in amity with them, entered their capital with drums beating and colours flying, in purſuit of a few French, who had taken refuge there. Theſe and other inſtances of the ſort too numerous to be recapitulated, make us leſs credulous on the ſcore of Great Britain's reſpect for the rights of neutrality than you appear to have been.

As to thoſe tender conſiderations which actuated the Britiſh miniſter to reject the plan on account of the inhumanity of calling in the aid of the Indians, I did expect that ſuch vague unauthenticated declarations would have been appreciated as they deſerved by you, Sir, who fought in the glorious cauſe of American independence, who witneſſed the humanity of their conduct in the courſe of that war, and who cannot be ignorant of what has happened ſince.

Your aſcribing hoſtile views to the preparations for our ſelf-defence, cannot Sir, have been matter of much ſurprize to me, after having heard a certain member of congreſs, who is known to be the organ of the will of adminiſtration, declare in that houſe that he aſcribed to the ſame motives the preparations we were making for the defence of Florida, though probably he was not ignorant, at the very time of their real object. Thus then Sir, according to your mode of reaſoning, and that of the gentleman I have juſt alluded to, though we were certain of being attacked, and though we were not certain that the American government had taken the proper meaſures for protecting its neutrality, yet we were to adopt no meaſures for our defence, but tamely ſuffer his majeſty's forts and poſſeſſions to be taken, and all this for fear of creating ill-founded ſuſpicions in your minds!

If you have not been very ſucceſsful Sir, in the ſolidity of your reaſonings, you appear not to be more ſo in the method of following them. After having denounced us to the whole American nation as ſtirring up the Indians againſt the United States, and *preparing them for a rupture*, you fall into the moſt glaring inconſiſtency in the following paragraph:

Whether this plan of exerciſing the Indians to direct hoſtilities againſt the United States, has been contemplated and promoted by any of our own citizens, it may be difficult to ſay; but that one or more of thoſe citizens have propoſed and taken meaſures to detach the Southern Indians from the intereſts of the United States, and to deſtroy the influence of the public agents, over thoſe nations, and thus to defeat the great objects of their appointment, the chief of which is to preſerve peace, is certain.

I again appeal here, Sir, to your generous candor. How is it poſſible to reconcile ſuch evident contradictions? On the one hand the Spaniſh officers are thoſe who excite the Southern Indians, againſt the United States, and on the other you quickly follow, preſuming, with ſufficient foundation in my opinion, that it may be ſome citizens of the United States.—But although you might entertain any doubts your ſelf on the ſubject, which I am ſure no perſon in America will after reading Mr. Blount's letter, did not this very ſame doubtful caſe and uncertainty, require in your ſituation more circumſpect language? And if even in this caſe you appear to have gone beyond what ſound policy, the tranquility and intereſt of the United States required, how much more unjuſt are your inſinuations againſt Spain, when the public poſſeſs, in Mr. Blount's letter, a document by which they can ſee, that if the manœuvres with the Indians were not favorable to the United States, they were precisely combined to attack the Spaniards? From this method of reaſoning of yours, it appears as if the Spaniards were jointly with Mr. Blount, ſtirring up the Indians to attack themſelves.

Reſpecting the laſt article of your report, I have only to obſerve, that although you have conſtantly aſſured me that government had not the leaſt information reſpecting the ſubject of my repreſentations, and although the letter of Mr. Jackſon, of Georgia, appears to coincide with your ideas, nevertheleſs time has ſhewn that I have complied with my duty by not repoſing on ſuch aſſurances. The plot is diſcovered, and nobody any longer doubts that the expedition was to have taken place.

[*The remainder of this letter was publiſhed in our laſt.*]

We underſtand that Mr. Gerry accepts the appointment of Envoy Extraordinary to France, and is making preparations for his voyage.

LEXINGTON (Ken.) June 14.

We are credibly informed by a gentleman who returned from New-Orleans laſt Sunday by land, that two veſſels which had arrived there from New-York, or ſome one of the Eaſtern ports, had been permitted to diſpoſe of their cargoes, during which time an embargo had been laid; however, they were ſhortly after permitted to depart, but before they proceeded any diſtance below Orleans, they were ſeized & prevented from proceeding on their voyage. Two other American veſſels had been brought in there as prizes, one of which was laden chiefly with logwood; after the cargo was landed, the veſſel was ſet up at public ſale, and purchaſed by the governor, who had her fitted out with 40 guns and 250 men, and ſent off on a cruize.

There are now lying at the mouth of the Ohio, ſeven Row-Gallies, completely armed, belonging to the Spaniards.

PETERSBURG, *July 25.*

Extract of a letter from the Havannah, dated June 27.

"An arrival laſt evening in 12 days from Carthagena, brings the news of a ſhip having arrived there from Cadiz, in 32 days, with certain accounts that La Nympa and Helena Frigates, which ſailed from this port the 11th of March laſt, with the late governor, and upwards of 7 millions of dollars, were captured about the beginning of May, within ſix leagues of Cadiz, by Sir John Jervis; they have alſo taken a packet from this place."

We learn that in the houſe of repreſentatives of the United States on the 8th July, 1797, it was

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to prepare and report articles of impeachment againſt William Blount, a ſenator of the United States, impeached by this houſe of high crimes and miſdemeanors; and that the ſaid committee have power to ſend for perſons, papers and records. Ordered that Mr. Sitgreaves, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Dana, Mr. Dawſon and Mr. Harper, be a committee purſuant to the ſaid reſolution.

July 10.

Reſolved, That the committee appointed to prepare and report articles of impeachment againſt William Blount, a ſenator of the United States, impeached by this houſe of high crimes and miſdemeanors, be authorited to ſet during the receſs of Congreſs.

Reſolved, That the ſaid committee be inſtructed to enquire, and by all lawful means to diſcover the whole nature and extent of the offence whereof William Blount ſtands impeached, and who are the parties and aſſociates therein.

—

We hear that the Envoys from the United States to the French Republic, ſailed from Philadelphia the 17th inſtant, in the brig Grace, Capt. Willis.

A CAUTION!

On Saturday night the Counting houſe of Mr. Patrick White caught fire, but fortunately was timely diſcovered to prevent any material injury—The fire it is ſuppoſed was occaſioned by rats having taken a lighted candle out of a candleſtick, and conveyed it to the place where the fire was diſcovered.

—

Departed this life, on Friday the 29th of June, the Rev. HENRY JOHN BURGES, of the county of Southampton, much lamented by a numerous and reſpectable circle of FRIENDS and acquaintances.

I.

ADIEU my friends the awful hour is paſt,
Dread darkneſs ſleeps within thy mortal eye;
Celeſtial choirs hover round thy bed,
On Seraph's wing, to mount thy ſoul on high.

II.

Adieu; but often ſhall remembrance ſad,
Beguile the tear of tender woe;
When loſt in ruminating walk,
I think of VIRTUE and of you.

III.

Prophetic ſtands that church, where once in ſacred ſtrains
Religion ſpread abroad her cheering rays;
Where congregated hearts in pious rapture fir'd,
Adore the God that made them, and his ways.

IV.

Thy manſion once the ſeat of rural bliſs,
Thy checker'd groves on Claſſic fancy wrought;
Whoſe leafy honors, ſpurn the mid-day heats,
And ſeem to urge the mind, to ſtudious thought.

V.

All, all like thee are chang'd, like thee are ting'd
With melancholy's deepeſt hue;
Thoſe ſcenes were once pure pleaſure dwelt,
Now ſad remembrance brings in view.

VI.

Oft ſhall thy conſort and thy tender twain,
Revolve that fate, which brought the to an end;
When tearful walking on the diſtant ſhore,
They think of father, huſband, and of friend.

VII.

And oft in viſit to the ſilent tomb,
Where fancy feeds up, dreadful forms of fear;
They'l lightly preſs thy green and growing mols,
And leave behind the tribute of a tear.

VIII.

The muſe of Mantua too, ſhall quit her rills,
And offering inſenſe on thy challow'd ſhrine;
Shall teach her ſons, when preſſing near thy urn,
To point and ſay, there dwells a friend of mine.

IX.

But thou art gone, thy God aſſerts his claim,
And reſignation paints thy diſtant view;
Thy neighbour ſobbs aloud the generous pang,
And ſympathetic tears thy corſe bedew.

X.

Reſt then lamented ſhade, and whilſt around thy clay,
Dark Cypreſs waves and pliant Willows weep;
Thy ſoul in Angels garb entwin'd,
Angelic joys ſhall reap.

WANTED, ON INTEREST,
One Thouſand Pounds,
For which undoubted ſecurity
will be given on real property.
Enquire of THE PRINTER.
July 24, 1797.

I WISH to rent my Houſe and Lots on High ſtreet—Immediate poſſeſſion will be given, and the terms will be made known, on application to SAMUEL DAVIES.
July 24, 1797.

CURRIE & PUMFREY,
BOOKBINDERS & STATIONERS;
RICHMOND.

HAVING commenced buſineſs in the houſe next door to Meſſrs. Bell & Shiphard's, and oppoſite to Mr. Joſeph Gallego's—Reſpectfully informs the public that they have received a large and complete aſſortment of the very beſt PAPER, and other materials from London, for carrying on the BOOK-BINDING & STATIONARY BUSINESS, in all their branches—Thoſe who pleaſe to employ them may depend upon their orders being executed with fidelity and diſpatch.

They have ready for ſale, a general aſſortment of DAY-BOOKS, JOURNALS, LEDGERS, and BLANK BOOKS, for public records, with a great variety of others for different purpoſes, all of the beſt materials faithfully manufactured.

They have alſo for ſale, the
NEW VIRGINIA JUSTICE,
By WILLIAM WALLER HENING.

Blank Books bound and ruled to any pattern—and orders from the country will be thankfully received and faithfully executed.

They want a BOY between twelve and fifteen years of age, as an apprentice, who can read and write, and be well recommended.
Richmond, July 18, 1797. (tf.)

IN October next, I intend to remove to the State of Kentucky; all perſons having buſineſs to ſettle with me, on my own account, or as Executor to the ſeveral Eſtates I act for, are deſired to have it done before that time.
SAMUEL HOPKINS.
Mecklenburg, July 24, 1797. (4*)

L O S T,

IN the ſtreets of Peterſburg, on Saturday laſt, A BOND, given by Chappel Bonner and John Brown, of Dinwiddie county, to James Birke, of Caſwell county, North-Carolina, for ſeventy dollars, with one or more credits on the back.—The ſaid Chappel Bonner and John Brown are forewarned from paying the ſaid bond to any perſon but the ſubſcriber, or his order. Any perſon finding the ſame, and delivering it to Mr. J. D. Haldane, of Peterſburg, or the ſubſcriber in Caſwell county, North Carolina, ſhall receive Four Dollars reward.
JAMES BIRK.
July 24, 1797. (4p)

TO LET,

FOR one, two, or three years the Store Houſes and Lot, in Bollingbrook ſtreet, at preſent in the occupancy of the ſubſcribers. Poſſeſſion will be given on the firſt day of September next. For terms apply to
GRACIE & ANDERSON,
Peterſburg, July 25, 1797 (3w.)

Mr. PRENTIS,
Pleaſe to publiſh the following Facts.

IN Auguſt 1794, the ſubſcriber was taken very ſick, kept his bed, except ſome few intervals, until October 1796. About eight or ten months after he was firſt taken ſick, a certain John Goode, of Brunſwick county, taking the advantage of him, having continued ſo long with conſtant fevers, purchaſed his land whereon he then lived—ſtipulated the articles as he pleaſed, turned the ſick out without houſe or place for himſelf or family to ſhelter under, which no doubt if the cauſe that he continued more than twelve months ſickneſs longer. Now ſo it is, that on the examination of the ſaid articles of agreement, it appears that the ſaid John Goode has not complied with them, or any ſingle article except the firſt. The land in the agreement alluded to, was to remain as ſecurity for the money, was to be ſurveyed in a different manner and at a different period from what I hear it was; inſtead of the real ſecurity he has given perſonal; and now by a train of publications refuſeth to pay the money—on the ſide of the ſubſcriber every article is complied with, even the acknowledgment of the wife's dower, which was obtained of her likewiſe when ſick and in bed, at the ſame time her huſband, the ſubſcriber, was deſired to walk out, that ſhe not knowing the conſequences might the eaſier be influenced—the land and title he made himſelf perfectly acquainted with, and ſtipulated in the deed (which he previouſly had ready) that the ſubſcriber ſhould pay the coſts of ſuits in defending the title to the ſame againſt all claimants in a particular manner as the ſaid deed will fully ſhew—the agreement will alſo prove his non compliance therewith. I charge him then with taking the advantage of my indiſpoſition, by purchaſing the land for leſs than half its value, of not paying that money as the conſideration for the land by the 15th of June in the preſent date—by not anſwering an ejectment writ iſſued from Peterſburg diſtrict court, nor letting me know there was ſuch a precept out in time, wiſhing to make it appear that I had not an equitable claim, &c. &c. If then I am not a *bona fide* ſeller, as his caution to the public inſinuates, he may apply for the money advanced towards the purchaſe of the ſaid lands, if any, any moment; and ten days after the publication of this in your paper, or whenever convenient, ſhall enter and take poſſeſſion of the ſaid land and premiſes; giving the public notice to take no aſſignment of titles, poſſeſſions of any lands, or articles, writings, or things, that the ſaid John Goode has had of me ſince Auguſt 1794.
THOMAS CLAY.
July 15, 1797. (2p)

TAKEN up on the ſubſcriber's plantation, on Butterwood creek, in the upper end of Dinwiddie county, a bright bay MARE, with a ſtar in her forehead, a ſnip on her noſe, a ſmall white ſpot on the left rump, and a wart on the left flank; about 8 years old, 4 feet 8 inches high. Appraiſed to Eighteen Pounds.
July 17, 1797. FRANCIS MUIR.

JOHN & WILLIAM BELL,

Have just received their SPRING ASSORTMENT, amongst which are,

The following GOODS,

LUSTRINGS, China and Satin Ribbons, Silk Hose and Gloves, Silk and Muslin Shawls, Muslins of every discription, Callicoes, Chintzes and Ginghams, Morocco, Kid and Stuff Slippers—Plumes, Ostrich Feathers, Fans, Umbrellas, Hats, Dimities, Muslinetts, White and Coloured Gloves, Table and Tea China, Hyson, Hyson skin and Imperial Teas, with a variety of articles in the Grocery line.

N. B. A few Copper STILLS, and FAN-MILLS

Petersburg, June 12, 1797. (ep tf.)

Samuel Myers & Brothers,

WISH to sell the HOUSE and LOT in Blandford, now in the occupancy of Mr. Ebenezer Stott; possession to be given on the first day of April 1798.—The terms will be made known at their Store on Bollingbrook-street.

Petersburg, June 18, 1797.

THE Copartnership of SAMUEL MYERS & BROTHERS, will be dissolved by mutual consent on the first day of August next. Those, therefore, who are indebted to the said firm, are earnestly requested to make payment without delay; and those who have claims, are desired to exhibit them.

SAMUEL MYERS.
M. M. MYERS.
SAMSON M. MYERS.

Petersburg, June 18, 1797.

Andrew Parks,

RESPECTFULLY informs the Public, that he has just received, and is now opening at his STORE, in the house formerly occupied by Mr. JAMES BAIRD, in Old Street,

A LARGE and GENERAL ASSORTMENT of

SPRING GOODS,

Which he will dispose of at the most reasonable and reduced prices for Cash or produce.

Petersburg, March 12, 1797. tf.

GIBSON & MACKENZIE,

Have just received,

A GENERAL ASSORTMENT OF

SPRING GOODS,

Which they will dispose of on reasonable terms, by Wholesale, two doors above the Printing-Office, Bollingbrook street.

Petersburg, June 8, 1797. (8w.)

For Sale by the Subscriber,

Teneriffe WINE, in Pipes.
Antigua RUM, in Hhds.
SALT, in Sacks.
Queen's WARE, in Hhds.
JUGS and Butter POTS in Crates.
PIPES long and short, in Boxes.
Black Quart BOTTLES, in Hampers, of one gross each.
NAILS, 4d. 6d. 8d. 10d. 20d. in Casks.
Best Double Gloucester CHEESE.
London PORTER, in Casks, of 10 dozen.
Taunton ALE, in do.
English TRIPE, in Kegs.
Ox TONGUES, in do.
Weeding and Hilling HOES, in Casks, of 6 dozen.

All of which he will sell on moderate terms.

DAVID ANDERSON.

July 13, 1797. (6)

Wanted Immediately.

A YOUNG MAN, of reputable connections, and good character, as an assistant in a store; he must be acquainted with Book keeping. A person thus qualified, will meet with good encouragement, by applying to

JOHN ELLIS.

Who has FOR SALE,

A Large and Elegant Assortment of

FANCY GOODS,

On the lowest terms for Cash

J. ELLIS.

Petersburg, July 18, 1797. (tf.)

DOCTOR PERKINS's

Patent Metallic Points,

May be had at the *Printing Office*, Petersburg (If applied for soon.)

THE numerous evidences of the benefits received and relief afforded, by the application of these Points, in Pains, Inflammations, Contractions, &c. are convincing testimonials of their efficacy.

May 2, 1797.

The Commonwealth of Virginia.

To the Sheriff of Greensville county, greeting:

WE command you to summon Benjamin Smith, if he be found in your bailiwick, to appear before our justices of our said County Court of Quarterly Sessions, at the Court-house of our said county, on the first day of next August Court, to answer a bill in Chancery, exhibited against him by Edward Smith, and this he shall in no wise omit, under the penalty of £. 100, and have then there this writ.

Witness Peter Pelham Clerk of our said court at the Courthouse, the 29th day of May, 1797, in the 21st year of the Commonwealth.

(8w.) P. PELHAM, Clerk.

Twenty Dollars Reward.

RUNAWAY from the subscriber, on the 19th ultimo, a Mulatto Fellow named TIM, I believe he is part Indian—He is a stout young fellow, about 25 years of age, was once cut on one of his wrists, I believe on his right, which has occasioned his hand to be stiff, so that he cannot shut it as the other, he has also a scar on his lip.

Any person who will deliver the fellow to me, or secure him in jail, so that I get him, shall be entitled to the above reward, and all reasonable expences.

H. MURFREE.

N. C. Murfreesborough, July 3, 1797. 4w

J. MARLING,

RESPECTFULLY informs the inhabitants of PETERSBURG and its vicinity, that he still continues his SCHOOL for the tuition of young Ladies and Gentlemen in the elegant art of DRAWING and PAINTING, through all its various branches. In the education of youth, especially the female sex, this beautiful accomplishment ought not to be neglected, as it at once affords a constant source of variegated amusement and pleasure. He also professes to take LANDSCAPES and MINATURE PAINTINGS, on the most reasonable terms. He will wait on any person at their own house, where it is not convenient or agreeable for them to attend his public School.

He would have no objection to a School in the country, not farther distant than thirty or forty miles, provided a sufficient number of Scholars could be obtained, so as to make it worthy the inconvenience and trouble that must necessarily accompany such an undertaking.—His attendance will be one day in each week to a country School, so that it cannot interfere with his engagements in town.

Petersburg, May 9, 1797. eotf

N. B. His School-House is in Bollingbrook street, nearly opposite the Printing Office.

NOTICE.

ALL persons having demands against the late Devereux J. Manley, dec. are requested to make them known as speedy as possible, that provision may be made for discharging the same—and all those that are indebted to the estate, will please to take notice, that all accounts remaining unsettled the last of August next will be put into the hands of an Attorney, without respect to persons.

JOSEPH BADGER, acting Ex'or.

Petersburg, May 24, 1797. (9w.)

Petersburg Bridge Lottery.

Agreeably to an Act of the General Assembly, passed last session, for the purpose of BUILDING a BRIDGE, making a Causeway, and extending Bollingbrook Street to meet Blandford Street—the following SCHEME is proposed:

			Dollars.
1 Prize of	8000	Dollars	8000
1 ditto of	1000	ditto	1000
2 ditto of	500	ditto	1000
7 ditto of	100	ditto	700
12 ditto of	50	ditto	600
400 ditto of	10	ditto	4000
3 do. last drawn	500	ditto	1500
426 Prizes			11800
704 Blanks			
1300 Tickets, at 10 Dollars, is			13000
Left for the purposes of the Scheme			3200

Tickets may be had at the Post Office, at either of the Vendue Offices, or any of the Commissioners.

It is intended to begin drawing at the Town Court-house on Thursday the first day of June, and to draw 500 Tickets each day until it is finished. The Prizes will be paid so soon as the drawing is finished, upon application to ROBERT MOORE. Those Prizes which are not applied for within six months after the drawing is finished, will be considered as relinquished for the benefit of the Scheme.

CHRISTOPHER M'CONNICO,
JAMES CAMPBELL,
ROBERT BOLLING,
ROBERT MOORE,
EDWARD JEFFERS,
JAMES CURETON,
GEORGE K. TAYLOR,
PETERSON GOODWYN,
ALEXANDER M'RAE,
} Commissioners.

Petersburg, March 18, 1797.

FOR SALE,

A SMALL stock of CATTLE, SHEEP, HORSES, and HOGS, several Virginia born NEGROES; having purchased of Mr. Thomas Clay an estate of such property, more than I want;—also wish to raise out of the same, or part thereof, some ready cash.

PHILIP WATKINS.

Dinwiddie, July 15, 1797. (4t)

TAKEN up by the subscriber, in Mecklenburg county, the 12th of June, a Bay MARE, 8 years old, 4 feet 5 inches high, a star in her forehead, a snip on her nose, her hind feet white, neither docked or branded. Polled and appraised to Nine Pounds.

MARTHA JONES.

July 1, 1797. (3p)

FOR SALE,

EIGHT WAGGON HORSES, and Two WAGGONS, with GEARS. For terms, apply at Mr. DANIEL DODSON's.

July 19, 1797.

Thirty Dollars Reward.

ELOPED from the service of the subscriber, on the 19th instant, a Negro Man by the name of DICK, about 25 years of age, five feet nine or ten inches high, by trade a carpenter, and is a lively brisk workman. His countenance is very good—When spoken to, he converses with ease and confidence, and is pretty sagacious. I purchased the said fellow last fall of Mr. Dabney Minor, in whose name he has been twice advertised in the Richmond news-papers. During his last runaway trip (last summer) he was employed for a considerable length of time, by some person near Dumfries, from which circumstance, I conjecture, he has taken another northern route. I forwarn all persons from giving him employment, of any kind whatever; and masters of vessels, or others, from carrying him out of this state. The above reward will be given if he is taken within the confines of this city; and an additional sum, in proportion to the distance he may be brought, or the trouble and expence the apprehender may be at in bringing him to this place.

AUG. DAVIS.

N. B. His apparel was of the usual negro kind, but he had more clothes than is customary for them to possess. A. D.

Richmond, June 21, 1797.

GREAT BARGAIN.

LAND FOR SALE.

THAT valuable place the subscriber lives at, in the county of Lunenburg 7 miles from the Courthouse, 58 from Petersburg, near the main road that leads to Bibb's Ferry, and one of the best stands for a Store, being central of a wealthy settlement. This tract contains about 600 acres, lies upon a branch of Nottoway river, remarkably free and easy to work, the greatest part of it good tobacco land, and fine for wheat, corn, flax, cotton, &c. it is generally well watered, has good springs convenient, and one of the best places for raising of hogs, &c.—there is enough cleared land in the best order for four hands to work to advantage, and a young orchard of a variety of fruit trees bearing every year.—The buildings consist of a very convenient dwelling-house, situated on an eminence, 28 feet in length, with two wings, two story high, three chimneys with seven fire places—also several other buildings which will answer for a Store, and other out houses. Any further description is unnecessary, as the purchaser would wish to view the premises, which may be seen at any time on application to the subscriber. LEWIS CONTELAU.

N. B. The price I ask being much below its value, I think proper to mention that it is 450l. one fourth to be paid down, and the balance in three annual payments; and if all paid down a discount of 12½ per cent. shall be allowed. I will allow good prices for negroes. L. C.

APRIL, 1797.

NOTICE.

THOSE indebted to Dinwiddie, Crawford and Co. are hereby informed, that the subscribers have appointed Captain Thomas Vaughan, of Mecklenburg county, their attorney, to collect the debts due the store at Mecklenburg, formerly under the direction of William Turnbull; and the debts due the store in Charlotte county, kept at Halls, under the direction of Robert Burton and William Duncan.

They have likewise appointed Mr. Nathan Fletcher, of Brunswick, their attorney, to collect the debts due the store formerly kept in that county, by Thomas Crawford.

They have also appointed Mr. Patrick Walker, of Warren county, North Carolina, their attorney; to collect the debts due the store formerly kept by William Cole and others, in that county.

The books containing the transactions in these different stores, are put into these gentlemen's hands, who are fully empowered to settle the accounts and grant discharges.

Those indebted to the said concern for dealings with David Ruffell, in Blandford, or Robert Turnbull, in Dinwiddie;—also those indebted to Duncan and Turnbull, for dealings at their store in Petersburg, under the direction of William Cole, will please take notice, that the subscribers are exclusively authorised to collect the said debts, by the Honorable the High Court of Chancery, and by the said Company; and that their receipts, and the receipts of their attornies aforementioned, will only be good against the debts.

CHARLES DUNCAN, a partner in both concerns, and attorney for D. C. & Co.

COLIN CAMPBELL, attorney for D. C. & Co. and James King, Sen.

Petersburg, May 24, 1797. (tf)

I WISH TO SELL,

THAT well known Plantation in Prince George county, near the old Courthouse, containing about 300 acres, not more than one half cleared, and that which is to cut, remarkable well timbered with Pine, Oak and Hickory growth; the Land remarkable free and easy to work, and think I may with propriety say, as fertile as any to be found in the neighbourhood; there is, I suppose, 70 or 80 acres of valuable low ground, the chief of which is crouded with fine Ash growth; it is remarkably well watered, and bounded on the north by Baily's creek, which is navigable to the highest part of the land for a boat vessel—It commands a view of James River, and has many local advantages, such as being very convenient to Mills, the Courthouse, Church, and is within 7 miles of Petersburg, and 2 of City-Point by water. If time should be an object with the purchaser, it will not be disagreeable to the subscriber.

ANTHONY PENISTON.

Dinwiddie, June 15, 1797. (tf.)

Blank Bills of Lading

For sale at the Office of the Printer hereof.

Manufacturing Mill for Sale.

THE Subscribers offer for sale the Manufacturing Mill and 68 acres of land attached to it, now in their occupancy, situated on Swift Creek, within 8 miles of Petersburg.—There are on the premises, a bakehouse, two dwelling-houses, and every necessary out house.

The Mill is provided with all Evans's improvements, and is in complete order for extensive business.

The time of payments will be made convenient to the purchaser, he giving satisfactory security.—Possession may be had the first of October insuing, and if not sold by that time, the property will be rented for one year.

WATSON & EBENEZER STOTT.

Petersburg, July 5, 1797. 1st. Oct.

NOTICE.

A PETITION will be presented to the next General Assembly, praying an increase of rent to the proprietors of public ware houses, erected in the Town of Petersburg, for the reception of Tobacco, and also a compensation to the Inspectors, for their trouble in receiving, granting receipts, and delivering Tobacco transported from the upper warehouses, and deposited with them for exportation.

July 6, 1797.

TAKEN UP, by the subscriber, some time in the month of February last, a small RED STEER, about nine or ten years old, marked with a crop and an under and overkeel in the left ear, and two small overkeels in the right ear, white under his belly, and his tail white; also, white spots on different parts of him—he is blind of one eye, and appears to have been worked—Appraised to three pounds.

RICHARD PRYOR.

July 13, 1797. (eo3*)

TAKEN up by the subscriber, in Chesterfield county, a Dun coloured MARE, about 13 or 14 years old, 4 feet 7 or 8 inches high, hanging mane and switch tail, no brand perceivable—Appraised to Three Pounds.

WILLIAM MANN, Sen.

July 15, 1797. (3p)

NOTICE.

ALL persons that have any just claims against the estate of Capt. Lemuel Peebles, dec. are requested to bring them in properly attested, by the first of September next, as provision may be made to discharge them. All persons indebted to the said estate, by bond or open accounts, are requested to settle them immediately, as the situation of the estate will not admit of any further indulgence

HEARTWELL PEEBLES, Ex'or.

Prince George, July 12, 1797. (6p.)

Twenty Dollars Reward.

ABSCONDED from the service of the subscriber, in April last, a Negro Carpenter Named

DICK,

The property of Mrs. S. Holloway; he is of a dark mulatto complexion, about 5 feet 10 inches high, and has remarkable white teeth, a plausible talking artful fellow, and tolerable good house carpenter, carried off tools with him, and is supposed to be jobbing about in the neighbourhood, under the protection of a forged pass—has a wife at W. Morgan's, in Prince George county, about 8 or 9 miles from town, where it is probable he harbours.—The above reward will be paid on delivering him to me, or secure him so that I get him again.

ALEXANDER HORSBURGH.

July 13, 1797. (6)

Ten Dollars Reward.

RUNAWAY from the subscriber, on the 30th ultimo,

FRANK,

a bright mulatto, about 19 years old, with short hair, good features, a smiling countenance, is short of stature, and stout made—he was clothed as crop negroes usually are; he has been accustomed to waiting in the house, attending the stable, and riding races. The above reward will be paid for apprehending and delivering him to me in Prince George county, or securing him in any jail so that I get him again.—I suspect he is about Petersburg.

RICHARD BLAND.

July 9, 1797. 4*

TO BE SOLD,

To the highest bidder, on Thursday the 31st of next August,

THAT valuable TRACT of LAND whereon the subscriber now resides, lying on both sides Mallery's creek, containing 486 acres; also the crop now growing, stock, household and kitchen furniture.

CHARLES ANDERSON.

Nottoway, July 10, 1797. (14)

BLANK BONDS,

At this Office.